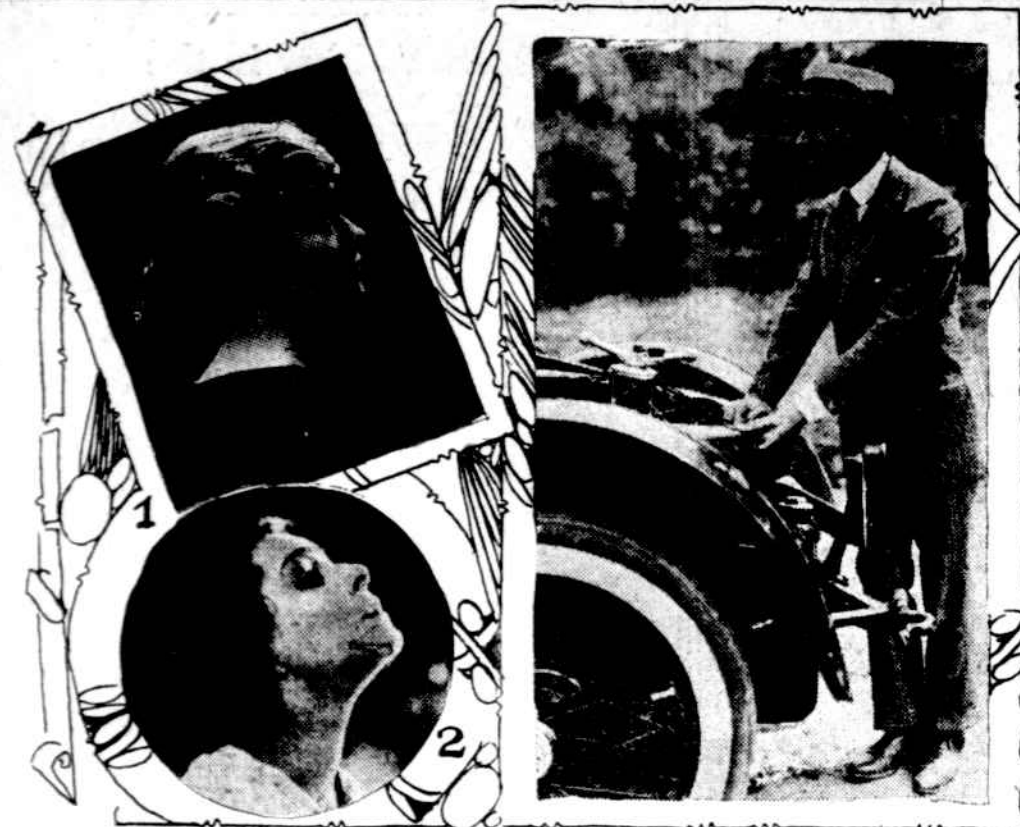


# MIDWEEK NEWS AND REVIEWS



## Local Theaters Enjoy Prosperity

Perhaps the greatest phase of increased prosperity in Washington during the past year lies in its theatrical activity.

The theaters of the city have not only had the greatest year in their careers, this despite the month of closing due to the influenza epidemic, but new theaters to an extent thought impossible a few years ago have risen and justified the faith which backed their being.

Even before the war, Washington was as well equipped theatrically as any city of its size in the country. Since the war we have witnessed the doubling of the number of first class theaters through the acquisition of Poli's and the Shubert-Garrick. These two houses which have had more or less checkered careers in stock, vaudeville and burlesque efforts, have more than succeeded as homes for first class plays and musical offerings.

The movie industry is reflecting the growth of the Capital principally through the efforts of Marcus Loew, Tom Moore and Harry Crandall, all three of these exhibitors have erected film places that compare most favorably with those of New York city.

Loew's Palace on F street, which was the first to open, has lited the vicinity of Thirteenth and F to the busiest time in its history. Shortly afterward Harry Crandall, with his Metropolitan, did the same thing for the 900 block of F street and then Tom Moore, with his Rialto, brought to upper Ninth street a theater hardly dreamed of five years ago.

And despite the increased number of houses, business is generally good and frequently of the "standing room" variety.

It is because of this unusual growth that The Herald is inaugurating its mid-week amusement section which will be devoted to all kinds of amusement news and views.

### STARS MADE BY THE PUBLIC.

One of the most emphatic instances of a star made by theatergoers was the case of Miss Billie Burke. Charles Frohman brought her back to her native United States from England to be John Drew's leading woman, and it took only one season for her to become a star. Her tour with Mr. Drew proved one continuous and joyous triumph for her. Critics went from prose to verse and spectators who neglected to reserve their seats in advance accepted standing room. Mr. Frohman frankly acknowledged he had nothing to do with it. She went out a leading woman and returned a star, and Mr. Frohman "presented" her in her new kingdom the very next season in "Love Watches." He also encouraged theatergoers in their devotion to Miss Maude Adams.

Miss Julia Marlowe was another early stellar discovery made by the public. Aside from her calm loveliness she had, and has, a voice which have convinced any one as to her possibilities—any one, of course, save the stupid men who were known as managers at the beginning of her career.

Coming down to the moment, Miss Laurette Taylor, Miss Ruth Chatterton, Miss Alice Brady, Miss Bainter, Miss Jane Cowl and Miss Mary Nash are instances of prompt public recognition of stellar worth. Miss Nash deserves the distinction, but her personality has many exactions to make of a playwright. Most of them are met in "The Big Chance," but will she continue to be so fortunate?

Miss Brady has passed her 150th performance in "Forever After," a fact which bears out the prediction made in these columns when the play was produced in September that her performance would carry the play. If such a thing were possible, and she has. Almost nothing has been done for the brilliant young actress by the author in this piece. Yet she has won.

There is one exception to the rule that managers do not make stars. His name is David Belasco.

### BELASCO JOINS RANKS OF THE FLICKER STARS.

The Stage Women's War Relief, which has shown much enterprise in devising new schemes for raising money for its war work, is now producing a series of twelve moving pictures, in which the services of prominent dramatists, actors and producers have been secured without charge.

David Belasco will be one of these movie actors. The producer was an actor early in his theatrical career, but this will be his first connection with the pictures. He is doing it for the sake of the patriotic work of the Stage Women's War Relief, one of the members of which tells an entertaining story of how his consent was gained.

"We asked him if he would act for us," said this actress. "He consented readily. Then we went on in fear and trepidation. 'We want you to act, Mr. Belasco,' we told him, 'but not on the stage.' He looked at us for a moment quizzically, a little mystified, a little perplexed. 'If I am not to act on the stage,' he said, 'then—where?' It was the psychological moment. It was then or never. None of us spoke for a moment. Then some brave soul blurted out: 'On the screen, Mr. Belasco.' For the moment he seemed dazed. Then came one of those rare, golden Belasco smiles. 'Very well,' he said, quite gently, 'whatever you think best. I want to help the soldiers all I can and by every means in my power.'"

So Mr. Belasco for a long time went daily to a studio on 125th street and submitted like any obedient movie actor to the orders of the director, and the photoplay will be released in a few days. It is called "A Star Over Night." Besides Mr. Belasco those who appeared before the camera included Edward Martindel, Bruce McRae, Hamilton Revelle, Elizabeth Risdon, Hilda Sponck, Cathleen Nesbitt and others.

### MAE MARSH BETTER.

Word from the Coast states that Mae Marsh, who has been sick in a hospital in Los Angeles, is improving and is able to be home again. Miss Marsh and her husband, Louis Lee Arms, have taken an apartment on Crenshaw boulevard. Mr. Arms, who is a former newspaper man, has been studying at the Boston Naval School, and is in Los Angeles on a leave of absence to spend the holidays with his bride. He will return East this month.

### ANNA HELD, JR., IN ACT.

Anna Held, Jr., the daughter of the late Anna Held who was professionally known as Liane Carrera, will be starred in a vaudeville production by Irvingine Wood. She will use the name of Anna Held, Jr., to which she was granted the right prior to her mother's death.

Mabel Normand Recovering. Los Angeles—Mabel Normand is recovering from a severe attack of pleuro-pneumonia that at one time was critical.

## FILM FLASHES.

Earl Bennett's new Paramount picture has been entitled "Happy Though Married." It will be released early next month.

Earl Schenck is playing the title role in "The Spirit of Lafayette," which will be released in New York early next month.

Yvonne Delva has been secured to take the part of Helen O'Neil in the screen version of "The 13th Chair." Leonora Perret will be the director.

"Breed of Men" is the title selected for William S. Hart's new Artcraft. Seena Owen is the leading woman. It will be released early next month.

Marguerite Clark on a new Paramount production entitled "A Honeymoon for Three." John Robertson is directing.

Baron Minoru Hirata, Japanese ambassador to Russia, accompanied by Marquis T. Mayeda and Y. Yonemura, are in the United States studying the pictures.

Jack Cunningham is writing the continuity for "Platonic Love," the comedy-drama by Capt. Leslie T. Peacock, which will be seen after the "Secret Garden," to be released January 22.

"Her First Knight," the latest Sunshine comedy to be made under the personal supervision of Henry Lehrman and directed by Fred Fishback, will be released through Fox Films January 16.

Lila Lee, who has just returned to Hollywood, starts work at once on a screen version of Grace Miller White's story, "Judge of Rogues Harbor," which will be seen after the "Secret Garden," to be released January 22.

The Exhibitors Mutual, in addition to their four regular releases, will offer on January 26 "The Eleventh Commandment," starring Lucille Lee Stewart. It was written and directed by Ralph Ince.

The next picture to be directed by Cecil De Mille has been supplied by Oscar Selwyn. The latter intended to produce it in New York as a play, but was induced to turn it over to the Famous Players' general director.

The second Henry Walthall subject will likely have its present working title, "A Long Lane's Turning," changed before it reaches the screen. This is the first picture of Henry Walthall's second principal since her recent marriage to Mr. Walthall.

Billie Rhodes' film, "Girl of My Dreams," is having some trouble in passing the Pennsylvania State Board of Censors, who express shock at some of the scenes in it.

Bessie Barriscale is now on her third picture for Robertson and Cole, all released through the Exhibitors' Mutual. "All of a Sudden Norma" is now being exhibited. Miss Barriscale's second picture, which has not yet been given a title, will be ready for release February 9.

The third one is being filmed. Howard Hickman, Miss Barriscale's husband, is directing her.

### W. J. BRYAN INVADES RANKS OF VAUDEVILLE

It looks settled for William J. Bryan, the best speaker since John C. Calhoun, to invade the vaudeville footlights. Nebraska's continuous spotlight is expected to start the vaudeville tour early in February at the Palace, New York, receiving for his twice daily lecture \$2,500 weekly.

Although Bryan has made chautauqua tours and lectured generally, he has up to this time steadfastly declined to appear on the vaudeville stage. While he remained away, however, he was present on the variety stage through monologists there often referring to him, having made much capital out of Bryan's successive and unsuccessful runs for the Presidency, among many other Bryan items.

If the arrangements are completed Bryan will limit himself to about twenty-two minutes, talking upon subjects of current events and discussing some ideas as to what line of rehabilitation the world may assume now that the war is ended.

### GABY MAY COME OVER.

Negotiations are pending between H. B. Marinelli and the big time circuits for Gaby Deslys and Harry Pinner, who are here late in the spring. At present they are in a Paris review.

### Off Season for "Follies" Divorces.

The war seems to have demoralized the divorce market among the cynical of the "follies." Last year theatrical barstools reaped a rich harvest in fees from choristers who sought divorces.

This season not a single case has resulted from the advent of the show.



## Rogers' Talks on Peace Ship II

By WILL ROGERS.

Well, I see the No. 1 Peace Ship arrived all O. K.

By sending this commission over there we are going to get even with them for some of their visits over here.

You know here for a while we sure were lucky to know what flag to put out each day.

It was in Detroit that the original Peace Ship idea was conceived. You know it's the same in anything: the fellow who originates or starts something is generally called a nut.

The next fellow comes along, takes his idea, goes away with it and is a smart man.

Of course, this company has the advantage of the first, as this one waited till the war was over to go.

I claim that Mr. Ford only made one great mistake, and that was that there were some people on his boat that should never have had return trip tickets.

Through Holland receiving some of the crowd is where the Kaiser got his idea of going there.

A lot of people think it is a bad omen arriving on Friday, the 13th, but I think it started out all right. I see they arrived at a town called Brest, the only port they could have landed at that we could pronounce.

About everybody that amounts to anything met them at the boat, including a delegation of Ladies' Millions and Dreamers.

Col. House was there listening to everything.

A lot of people were not in favor of this trip, but I was. I think it gave the people of this country a chance to at least hear who was Vice President D'Oraay.

The paper today does not state any thing about landing the Republican they took along. They may have chucked him overboard. They only took him to argue with, and when the peace talk starts they won't need him.

I think they are going to let him wait on the peace table.

Paper mentions Admiral Dr. Grayson. Hope he stood his maiden sea voyage well.

They would have taken Secretary Daniels but he hates the ocean.

Mr. McAdoo would of gone with them but the salary was not big enough. So Mr. Wilson told him to stay at home and try to hustle a job, so he could make his wife a living.

'Cause there is nothing worse than having a jobless son-in-law on your hands.

Some wanted Mr. Hughes to go. While the others were signing up he could of been investigating. He would of had his report about ready to turn in the day before the next election.

I wanted to get to go along for Joseph Creel goes along to suppress any scandal that may crop up. They wanted Mr. Bryan to go, but nobody knew where he was.

We have no Prime Minister like these other nations to send, unless we send Billy Sunday.

If Ireland is represented at the conference I can see France saying: Take this right away and bring us back war. Now they have sent over for the Industrial Board. We may not of had as many men in the war as these other nations, but we are going to swap them at the peace table.

Some day next week, if I don't get killed for this, I will tell what will happen at the peace table.

AMUSEMENTS.

DOLES SHUBERT Attractions. Tonight at 8:20.

MAYTIME With JOHN CHARLES THOMAS, Dorothy Biscrow, John T. Murray. Next Week Seats Now.

The Kings of Mirth and Laughter. MCINTYRE & HEATH In the New Spectacular Musical Comedy.

HELLO, ALEXANDER With a Great Supporting Cast and a Breezy Story of Broadway Beauties.

NATIONAL MR. LEO DITRICHSTEIN In "The Marquis de Priola" By Henri Lavedan.

STARTING SUNDAY—SEATS SELLING. KLAU AND BRANCO'S SUPREME MUSICAL COMEDY SUCCESS.

A Perfect Cast and a Chorus of New Amsterdam Theater Beauties.

RACHMANINOFF PIANO RECITAL. National Theater, Tues., Jan. 21, 4:30.

SEIDEL LATEST VIOLIN SENSATION. National Theater, Thurs., Jan. 23, 4:30.

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## AMUSEMENT BRIEFS.

Friends of Mrs. Vernon Castle, now in England, authorize a denial of the report she is engaged to Tom Powers.

Ray Comstock has a new comedy, "Adam and Eve," by George Middleton and Guy Bolton.

Cyril Harcourt is writing a new comedy of the garment variety. The plot will be built around a union suit.

William Courtenay and Thomas A. Wise will appear as co-stars at the Morosco January 15 in "Cappy Ricks," by Edward E. Ross.

Mrs. Oscar Lewisohn (Edna May) sailed for England December 30. She intends to make her home in London in the future.

James Cullen and Lewis Browne are the authors of a new farce, "Please Get Married," which Oliver Morosco has accepted for production.

A number of English producers have been after the British rights for "The Peasants" but the Selwyns have decided to produce it themselves in London.

Irvin S. Cobb has been made a chevalier of the Legion of Honor, conferred upon him in recognition of his writings in behalf of the French people.

Marie Cahill will shortly be seen in a new musical comedy by George V. Hobart and Herbert Hall Winslow entitled "Just Around the Corner."

Orders have been issued by Charles Dugham to the officials at the Hippodrome to name all the boxes at the big playhouse after the principal figures in the war. There will be eighteen boxes and fifty-one loges titled.

Sam Bernard and Nora Bayes will do "Roméo and Juliet" at the All Star Actors' Fund benefit to be held at the Century January 24.

AMUSEMENTS.

LOEW'S COLUMBIA F St. at 12th. Continuous 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

NOW PLAYING WALLACE REID IN "THE DUB"

—TOMORROW— BRYANT WASHBURN

IN "THE WAY OF A MAN WITH A MAID"

LOEW'S PALACE F St. at 13th. Continuous 10:30 a.m. to 11 p.m.

New Playing PAULINE FREDERICK

IN "Out of the Shadow"

AUDITORIUM NEWMAN TRAVELTALKS

Today, 4:30. Tonight, 8:15. PARIS, 1918.

GAYETY 9th Street. "FOLLIES OF THE DAY"

With GERTRUDE HAYES. NEXT WEEK—LEW KELLY

ARCADIE 14th and Park Road DANCING

TONIGHT 8:30

## Here You Have Their Numbers

1. Pay Daintier, whose work in the past few years has elevated her to stardom in a new production, "East Is West." 2. Yvonne, Alia Kallimova, a star both of the stage and of the screen. There's only one name to name him? 4. George M. Cohan, who made the American flag famous. 5. Lucille LaVaughn, one of vaudeville's favorite headliner. 6. Jack Bennett's beauties—they should worry about the "Flux." 7. Wm. S. Hart, the man's man of the pictures.

## Next Week at Theaters

Pell's—McIntyre & Heath in "Hello, Alexander."

McIntyre and Heath, in a new musical extravaganza, "Hello, Alexander," under the direction of the Messrs. Lee and J. J. Shubert, come to Poli's Theater next week, with matinees on Thursday and Saturday.

This new musical piece is in two acts and six scenes. The book of "Hello, Alexander" is by Edgar Smith and Emily M. Young, the lyrics by Alfred Bryan, with music by Jean Schwartz. The supporting company includes Eva Puck, Henrietta Byron, Lulu Beeson, Trislie Hicks, Lillian Rosedale, Vivian Holt, Dan Quinlan, Mesley, Welch and Montrose Clayton and White, Jack Squires, Nat Keefe, Frank "Pop" Ward, Joseph Kaufman, Otto Johnstone and John Bell.

Belasco—"Polly with a Past." The Washington opening of "Polly with a Past" will take place next Monday night at the Shubert-Belasco Theater. The entire original cast is to appear. Miss Ina Claire will appear in the role she created. Others in important parts are Cyril Scott and H. Reeves-Smith. The production was personally staged by Mr. Belasco and every act, it is said, shows evidence of his surpassing stagecraft. The engagement will include afternoon performances on Wednesday and Saturday.

Garrick—"Just Around the Corner." Miss Marie Cahill will begin a week of brilliant comedy at the Shubert-Garrick Theater Sunday night in "Just Around the Corner."

On the bronze tablet which marks the fame of "Miss Springtime," with the wonderful music of the mermaid, Kallman as a foundation, the next week for a return engagement, this masterpiece which made a tremendous hit in Washington last season.

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AMUSEMENTS.

SHUBERT - BELASCO TONIGHT, 8:20—50c to \$2.00. MAT. SAT., 25c to \$1.50.

WHY MARRY? With Actor Theater (N. Y. City and President Ina Claire, including NAT C. GOODWIN

NEXT WEEK Beginning Monday—Seats Now DAVID BELASCO Presents POLLY WITH PAST

with Ina Claire, Cyril Scott, H. Reeves-Smith and Entire Original Cast and Belasco Theater (N. Y. City) Production.

TUESDAY 4:30 NEW YORK SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Walter Damrosch, Conductor. Soloists—Michele Elvinski—Pianist. Tickets, \$2.50, \$2.00, \$1.50, \$1.00. T. Arthur Smith, 1306 G St.

SHUBERT - GARRICK F St. at 13th. TONIGHT, 8:20—50c to \$2.00.

Pop. Mat. Today, Best Seats, \$1.00. Seats \$2.00 to \$2.50.

ROCK-A-BYE BABY Broadway. Seats Now. Seats \$2.00 to \$2.50.

Next Week, Commencing Sunday Seats Now MARIE CAHILL

In a New Comedy of Optimism "JUST AROUND THE CORNER" By George V. Hobart & Herbert H. Winslow

(There's Happiness—Just Around the Corner.)

LYCEUM The "BLUE BIRDS" With Fascinating Grace Harvard

DANCING. THE RIGHTWAY STUDIO 812 St. N. W., AT N. Y. AVE.

Annex Dancing ACADEMY Teaching up-to-date ballroom dancing—One Step, Fox Trot, Waltz (Max. 1st step, step), class lessons, 50c. Private lessons any hour. Lady and Gentlemen Instructors.